

April 4, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Goodrich, please.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, and members of the body, we are wasting time. I am going to make a suggestion and that is that we adopt the Bernard-Stevens amendment to amend it to the 10th. Doesn't make a particle of difference one way or the other, but let's adopt it, then take the motion of Senator Withem and bracket the bill or the constitutional amendment proposal, whatever you call it, bracket 239, be done with that. Go on to LB 1141, then open your Journal books to page 1863, 1863, where Senator Warner has got an amendment proposal for LB 1141 which, in essence, puts a version of 239 in LB 1141, and we start talking about that. That, in essence, gets us up to the water tank where we can actually drink or not drink. In essence, to review, let's quit talking about it, let's adopt the Bernard-Stevens amendment just to get rid of it, adopt the Withem amendment that gets it bracketed, gets 239 out of our way. Then we go on to LB 1141 and take up Senator Warner's motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lynch, please. Senator Schmit, please. I don't see Senator Lynch. Did you wave off, is that what you did, Senator Schmit? Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, and members. Perhaps one of the reasons that LB 239 (sic) hasn't caught fire in the Legislature may well be a fault of some of us who believe that there are some problems in education, particularly in higher education coordination, and maybe we took for granted that people assumed that there was a problem, and we focused on how to solve the problems rather than going back and rehashing that there was a problem. I think what we should focus on at the moment, and it is a point that I want to make, is that there is a terrible problem in higher education. And I think we ought to go back a little bit to last year and examine why we are at this point today. Nobody has talked about it a whole lot but the Kearney State issue is currently before the Nebraska Supreme Court. That case has the opportunity to be a landmark case and tell us what powers the Legislature does or does not have when it comes to higher education changes and coordination and various aspects of how we run our institutions in this state. But it does more than that. If you voted last year for Kearney State to become part of the University of Nebraska, you did so for a purpose and one of those purposes were there was problems